STARDUST & SOLILOQUIES

ACT 2

CHAPTER 11

BY TRI VUONG

SORRY. NEVER HEARD OF YOU.
LISTEN MISTER AH... ZAHN. ITS BEEN A REAL CRUMMY DAY SO WHATEVER THIS IS ABOUT. CAN IT WAIT?
I *REALLY* NEED A DRINK. SO IF YOU DON'T MIND -
WOW!!!

IS THIS ONE OF THE SPECTROMETER PROTOTYPES? WHAT KIND OF VOLTAGE ARE YOU RUNNING THROUGH THE MAGNETIC COILS?
120?

UH... 240, ACTUALLY.
HEY. DO YOU MIND NOT TOUCHING THAT? THE WIRING IS PRETTY DELI-

WHOAH!
IS THIS THE CONTROL UNIT?! HOW DID YOU MINIATURIZE ALL THE CIRCUITRY?
YOU KNOW. I'VE BEEN WORKING ON A SIMILAR DESIGN FOR ONE OF MY PROJECTS BUT I KEEP OVERLOADING THE DAMPERS. DO YOU MIND IF BORROW-

GIMME THAT!
DON'T TOUCH MY STUFF! WHO ARE YOU ANYWAYS?

LIKE I SAID, MY NAME IS OSCAR ZAHN. I'M FROM THE SOCIETY OF-
WHATEVER. FORGET I ASKED.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A POSITION AT DARTMOUTH, LOOK FOR PROFESSOR MOODY.

I'M PRETTY SURE THEY'LL HAVE SOME EXTRA ROOM IN THEIR BUDGET FOR NEW TEACHERS NOW.
SO ABOUT THAT DRINK...

WHY SURE! I'D LOVE TO JOIN YOU FOR A PINT!
UH... THAT'S NOT WHAT I
WE HAVE SO MUCH TO DISCUSS! COME ON, I'M BUYING!

OH! UH-
YEAH! I WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT UH- THAT SOCIETY THING!

Monaghan's
PUB

WELL..

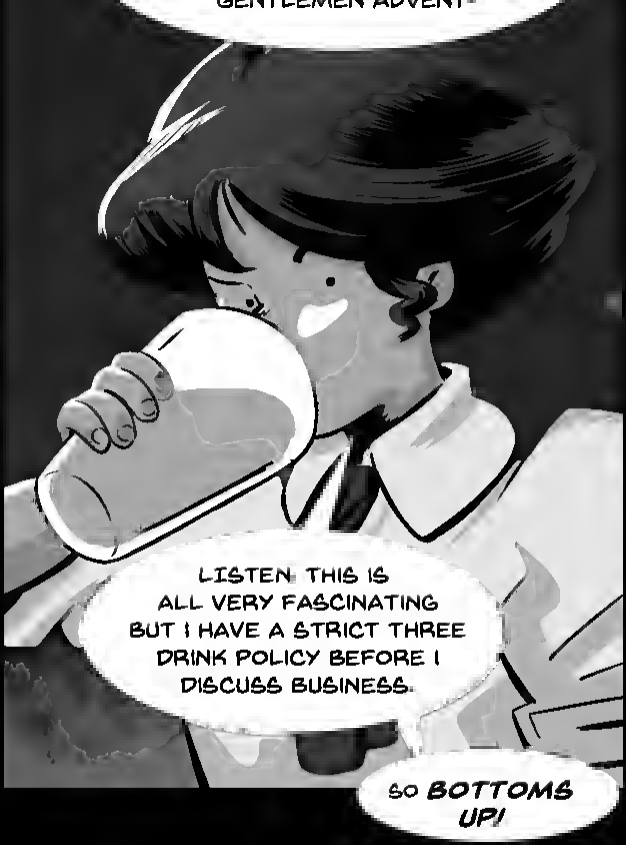
DO YOU SUPPOSE THEY SERVE MILK HERE?

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.
OH QUITE SERIOUS. I ASSURE YOU!
A GLASS OF WARM MILK. AN IRISH PUB IN AMERICA. A NIGHT OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO BRILLLIANT SCIENTIFC MINDS. IT SHALL BE A MOST SCINTILLATING EVENING!

MMM... YOU DON'T SAY...
DO YOU READ? I MEAN I'M SURE YOU READ HAHAHA! I MEAN WHAT DO YOU ENJOY READING?
ASSUMING THAT LEISURE READING IS A PAST TIME YOU ENJOY, OF COURSE.

SORRY IF I'M BLATHERING ON LIKE AN IDIOT. THIS IS ALL JUST SO EXCITING FOR ME!
HERE I AM. IN AMERICA, (THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HERE YOU KNOW). SHARING A DRINK WITH *THE* NORA GREY!
MM..
THE SOCIETY WILL BE SO EXCITED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS!

FORGIVE ME. I STILL HAVEN'T TOLD YOU THE PURPOSE OF MY TRIP.
I REPRESENT THE SOCIETY OF CRYPTOCARTOGRAPHY AND NECROLOGICAL EXPLORATION.
OR C.A.N.E. FOR SHORT.
OUR MEMBERSHIP CONSISTS OF A MOTLEY CREW OF SCIENTISTS, SCHOLARS, HISTORIANS, AND


GENTLEMEN ADVENT
LISTEN. THIS IS ALL VERY FASCINATING BUT I HAVE A STRICT THREE DRINK POLICY BEFORE I DISCUSS BUSINESS.
SO BOTTOMS UP!

ER.. WELL I'M NOT REALLY MUCH OF A DRINKER BUT...

WHEN IN ROME....

I SAID BOTTOM'S UP!!!

GLUG GLUG
GLUG GLUG

YOU'RE TELLIN' ME.
NORA GREY...

... DA DAUGHTER OF THA RENOWNED SHIENTIST, JAMES GREY ....
DAT I HAVE DA WRONG IDEA ABOUT GREY MATTER?

YESSS...
HIC...

DAS' XACTLY
WUHUHMMM SAYIN....

BURRRRRPPP

AND WE WERE GETTING ALONG SO WELL...
GREY MATTER IS AN ENERGY SOURCE. POSTULATED BY MY DEARLY DEPARTED FATHER.
HOW YOO GED UNDRUNK?
A CLEAN

ENERGY SOURCE.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?
WE'RE BURNING COAL FASTER THAN EVER. NOBODY CARES, BUT I RAN THE NUMBERS. A CENTURY FROM NOW, AT THE CURRENT RATE OF EXPECTED GROWTH, THIS PLANET'S GOING TO BE IN BIG TROUBLE.
I'VE SPENT THE BETTER HALF OF THE LAST DECADE TRYING TO PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF GREY MATTER. SO THE WORLD CAN HAVE A CLEAN ALTERNATIVE TO COAL.
NOW YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME THAT MY RESEARCH IS

WRONG?
WELL...
ASHUALLY...

TO BE CONTINUED...

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

WELCOME BACK! HOPE YOU GUYS ENJOYED THIS WEEK'S COMIC. LOTS OF LITTLE REVELATIONS WERE REVEALED IN THIS WEEK'S COMIC THAT WILL EVENTUALLY ANSWER SOME MAJOR QUESTIONS

SOME OF YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN ASKING ABOUT OSCAR'S PAST! IN FACT... THERE MIGHT BE ENOUGH CLUES LAID OUT SO FAR FOR YOU TO GUESS AT OSCAR'S ORIGIN!

I ACTUALLY HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE. WHEN I FIRST DECIDED TO HAVE THE CASSIOPEIA STOP OFF AT THE ISLAND, I DIDN'T REALIZE THEY WOULD BE HERE SO LONG. THE EXTENDED CHAPTERS HAVE ALLOWED ME TO INDULGE IN SOME SIDE STORIES THAT HAVE TAKEN ON A LIFE OF THEIR OWN. HOPEFULLY YOU GUYS ARE ENJOYING EXPLORING THE OSCAR-VERSE WITH ME.

I'M GOING ON VACATION IN A FEW DAYS, SO THERE WON'T BE A COMIC FOR TWO WEEKS. DON'T WORRY! ALFRED HAS COME UP WITH WITH SOME MORE SUPPLMENTAL MATERIAL ON THE PATREON BLOG AND WE'RE MAKING IT FREE FOR EVERYBODY TO READ! PLEASE CHECK IT OUT AND MAKE SURE TO COME BACK AFTER THE BREAK!

- TRI

YOU CAN FOLLOW US ON:

PATREON: PATREON.COM/TRIVUONG

TRI'S INSTAGRAM: TRIVUONG
TWITTER: @TRI_VUONG
TUMBLR: TRI-VUONG.TUMBLR.COM
YOUTUBE: YOUTUBE.COM/REDROBO76

PLEASE CHECK OUT OSCARZAHN.COM FOR MY BLOG AND BEHIND THE SCENES STUFF.